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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6397
INFO RUEHNM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2370
RUEHMG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 2159
RUEHOM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 2959
RUEHJN/AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM 2454
RUEHJL/AMEMBASSY JORDA 2127
RUEHJW/AMEMBASSY KIVADH 1983
RUEHJW/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 2845
RUEHJCS/DIA WASHDC
RUEHJF/FBI WASHDC
BT
UNCLAS BEIRUT 01360

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PTER, PINS, LE, IR
SUBJECT: SHAYKH FADLALLAH VISITS IRAN; OFFICE DENIES
HIS INVOLVEMENT IN MARINE BOMBING

1. AN ARTICLE IN THE FEBRUARY 1 EDITION OF AN-NAHAR
CITES AN ARTICLE IN "AL-JUMHURIYAH AL-ISLAMIYAH," THE
MONTHLY OF THE RULING PARTY IN IRAN, STATING THAT
IRANIAN PARLIAMENTARY CHAIRMAN HUSAIN RAFSANJANI RECEIVED
LEBANESE SHIA SHAYKH MUHAMMAD HUSAIN FADLALLAH IN
JANUARY 31. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, RAFSANJANI TOLD
FADLALLAH: "YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE YOUNG MEN WHO ARE
PREPARED TO SACRIFICE THEMSELVES IN DIRECT BLOWS
TO THE ENEMY." THE IRANIAN PAPER QUOTES FADLALLAH
AS SAYING THAT HIS GOAL IS THE EXPULSION OF THE
"AGGRESSIVE U.S. FORCES AND OTHERS WHICH ARE CALLED
MULTINATIONAL FORCES, INCLUDING THE ZIONISTS."
FADLALLAH ALSO ARGUED THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE
RESISTANCE OF LEBANESE MUSLIMS, LEBANON IS BECOMING
"A GRAVEYARD FOR THE ZIONIST FORCES."

2. ON FEBRUARY 3, AN-NAHAR PUBLISHED A STATEMENT
BY FADLALLAH'S OFFICE, DENYING THAT HE WAS INVOLVED
IN PLANNING THE OCTOBER 23 BOMB ATTACK ON THE MARINES.
THE STATEMENT WAS OCCASIONED BY AN ARTICLE IN THE JANUARY
31 WASHINGTON POST, WHICH MENTIONED FADLALLAH AS ONE OF
THOSE INVOLVED IN THE BOMBING. THREE INDIVIDUALS
MENTIONED IN THE POST ARTICLE -- LAL, FUTUH, ALI MAHDI
AND NAFTO SAFA -- ALSO HAVE DENIED RESPONSIBILITY FOR
THE ATTACK, STATING THAT THEY RESERVE THE RIGHT TO
SUE THE POST.
END OF MESSAGE

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